



HERBERT ASQUITH, PREMIER, AND LORD LANSDOWNE, CHAMPIONS FOR AND AGAINST BRITISH BUDGET.

That England faces a great political crisis in the war the house of lords has made upon the budget and the liberalistic provisions it contains is admitted by the most ardent foes of the tax measure which the government and the house of commons framed for the consideration of the peers. Grave warnings were uttered by Lord Rosebery, Lord Loreburn, the Earl of Creve and many other prominent members of the upper branch of parliament in advocating the adoption of the bill. Lord Rosebery viewed the situation with such gravity that he told his colleagues in an eloquent address that Great Britain had not been confronted with so serious a situation since 1832. When the house of lords took a recess after a three days' debate on the budget 5,000 people stood outside the parliament house singing a song entitled "God Gave the Land to the People" to the tune of "Marching Through Georgia." The episode is said to have had a marked effect upon even so pronounced a leader of the opposition as Lord Lansdowne.

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INFLUENCE OF COLOR

By ARCHIBALD SPOFFARD.
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"Doctor, I have a problem for you to solve. I am aware that you study the science of your profession rather than practice that profession; that your investigations have pertained to the different conditions wherein mind dominates matter and other kindred questions. I have heard that you have even analyzed love between the sexes and are prepared to place men and women in positions where they will love and other positions wherein they will hate one another. Am I right?"

"Partly. We are all affected by our environment. Bad weather, for instance, makes us quarrelsome."

"But we cannot control the weather, and the problem I have for you is to produce love. As you know, I am immensely wealthy. My wealth must all go in time to Isabel, my only child. She is now trying to decide between two men. One of them I wish her to marry; to the other I have serious objections. She will not be influenced by me. Can you instruct me how to influence her by natural causes?"

"I can suggest a method for you to try," the doctor replied, "if you can bring about the necessary conditions. Arrange, if possible, that your daughter, when the man you prefer is with her, shall receive him in rooms decorated with soft colors harmoniously blended. Let some of the apartments be entirely of green. Arrange also that when she is with the man you oppose the rooms shall be all hung in red."

"Do you really think?"

"I have observed," the doctor continued, interrupting, "that people with green surroundings are likely to be amiable, whereas when shut up together in red they are predisposed to quarrel."

Mr. Percival Smythe resolved to try the experiment. He sent decorators to his country house with orders to decorate certain suits in red, others in predominant green. His daughter had determined to invite both the men she was to choose from to spend the winter holidays at this country house. They were Dwight Williams, whom her father favored, and Russell Barnes, whom she slightly preferred.

Mr. Smythe intended to be at the house continuously and see that the doctor's instructions were carried out. Nevertheless he was detained in the city for a few days, and Mr. Barnes arrived before both him and his rival. The result was that the young lady passed several days with her favorite in whatever rooms she liked. He naturally selected the green rooms.

When her father arrived she told him that it was useless for Williams to put in an appearance since she had about decided to accept the other man. Mr. Smythe begged her to wait a week, wrote Mr. Williams to delay his coming and put decorators in the green rooms, ostensibly to make changes. This forced his daughter to pass the time spent with Mr. Barnes in the red rooms.

After three days she told her father he might send for his favorite. She had discovered certain disagreeable traits in Mr. Barnes that she had not looked for. Mr. Smythe telegraphed his friend to come at once, changed the decorators from the green to the red room and invited Mr. Barnes to go a-hunting with him.

Mr. Williams was thus left free to press his suit with the lady, using the green room. Mr. Smythe kept Mr. Barnes with him for a week, and when they returned he was informed by his daughter that she had been surprised to find Mr. Williams far more amiable than Mr. Barnes.

Meanwhile Mr. Smythe had determined to unite his fortune with that of another multimillionaire. He shut up the green rooms, thus forcing his daughter and her two lovers into those hung with red. Within a few hours a triangular quarrel occurred. It was natural that the rivals should be at swords' points, but in this case the antagonism extended to the lady. After being very abusive to both she went to her father and told him to send them both away since she would have neither.

Mr. Smythe did not need to be so discourteous since both his guests made excuses to leave before the expected time. The new man, Mr. Oswald Ream, came soon afterward. The red rooms were now locked and bolted, and the newcomer was turned into the green suit with the young lady.

The father watched anxiously for the result he desired. It did not come. The couple seemed to be fairly well pleased with each other, but made no visible headway toward a betrothal. The period of their intended stay in the country was approaching an end, and Mr. Smythe became impatient. He wrote to the author of the color plan giving a statement of the results of his treatment up to date and received the following reply:

Put them occasionally, for short periods, into the red suit.

Mr. Smythe did not understand the object of the doctor's change of treatment, but had great confidence in him and carried out his instructions. Three doses of the new medicine were required before results were obtained. Then Mr. Smythe noticed an estrangement which gave signs of being a lovers' quarrel. Mr. Ream announced his intended departure. Mr. Smythe detained him and soon after turned the couple again into the green suit.

When the party returned to the city the medical scientist who had suggested the experiment received a check for \$5,000 accompanied by a note stating that his prescription had worked admirably and the lady was engaged to a suitor who would add \$5,000,000 to what she would possess.

PLAYED WITH A LION.

A South African Child Who Ran to Meet the Big "Doggie."

The infant son of one of the Dutch settlers in South Africa had strayed away. After some time a search party discovered little footprints leading in the direction of the bush. Following up these, the search party came upon a large open space, at the farther side of which they discovered the object of their search sitting hugging a little wooden doll and munching a piece of bread and butter. Before they could make their way through the thick, tangled undergrowth a large lion sprang into the clearing. The little boy, far from being frightened, ran to meet the lion, holding up his bread and butter and said, "Take a bite, doggie."

The father stood powerless to move or speak through fear, expecting each instant to see the child crushed under the lion's paw, but instead of doing as he dreaded the lion turned himself over and lay on his back at the child's feet, looking up in his face as a cat would do at play. Watching his opportunity, the father raised his gun and fired, hitting the lion in the leg. The animal sprang up and, leaving the child, rushed on the party, injuring two of the number before it was finally killed. From this circumstance the child was immediately christened by the settlers "Daniel."—London Family Herald.

WAITED FOR HEALY.

An Incident of the Land League Agitation in Ireland.

One morning during the Land league agitation Mr. Parnell left Dublin by the early mail train for Roscommon to address a meeting. On arriving in the town he received a telegram from Dublin which ran:

Missed mail train. Will get down at 3 o'clock. Postpone meeting till I arrive. HEALY.

Mr. Parnell was pleased to learn that T. M. Healy, M. P., was coming down. Delighted, too, were the local promoters of the demonstration, and the meeting was gladly postponed for a few hours.

At 3 o'clock the railway station and its approaches were thronged with people with bands and banners, and the train from Dublin steamed in amid terrific cheering for Tim Healy.

The train pulled up, a carriage door opened, and the local reception committee rushed to it, when out stepped "Healy," but it was not T. M. Healy, M. P. It was W. Wallace Healy, a well known reporter on the staff of the Irish Times.

He had been assigned to the Roscommon meeting, had missed the mail train, and it was most important that his paper should have a report of Mr. Parnell's speech; hence the telegram.—Pearson's Weekly.

What Yeomen Were.

Yeomen were formerly considered to be by their title on a level with esquires, and they were called yeomen because, in addition to the weapons proper for close engagements, they fought in the wars with arrows and a bow which was made of yew; hence the word. After the conquest the name of yeoman, in reference to the original office in war, was changed to that of archer. The term, however, was continued with additions—the yeoman of the crown, of the chamber, yeoman usher, etc.—and we find that considerable grants were bestowed on some of them. In the legal view a yeoman is defined to be one that has fee land of the value of 40 shillings a year and is thereby qualified to serve on juries, to vote for knights of the shire and to do any other act which the law may require. The yeomen always took a leading part in whatever concerned the regulations or interests of the kingdom, and their renown as warriors is fully established by their numerous heroic achievements.—London Globe.

Insects and Flowers.

Experiments on showy flowers like the poppy tend to show that insects are not always attracted to flowers by the brightly colored petals, but rather by the perception—doubtless by means of smell—that there is honey or pollen in these experiments the unopened flower bud is inclosed in a gauze net so as to protect it from insects, and when it expands the petals are carefully removed without touching the remaining parts with the fingers (for bees avoid a flower if the smell of human fingers is left on it, and the petal-less flowers receive practically as many insect visits as untouched flowers do.

Her Complexion.

We once knew a woman who quarreled with her complexion. At one time she touched it up so much that it became touchy. At another time it was beyond the pale. Occasionally it broke out and became very fiery. But, however much she quarreled with it, she was always ready to make it up.

A Merger.

Regular Customer—There used to be two or three little bald spots on the crown of my head, away back. Are they there yet?

Barber—No, sir; it ain't so bad as all that. Where those spots used to be, sir, there's only one now.—Chicago Tribune.

A Hard One.

"When," he demanded, "will you pay this bill?"

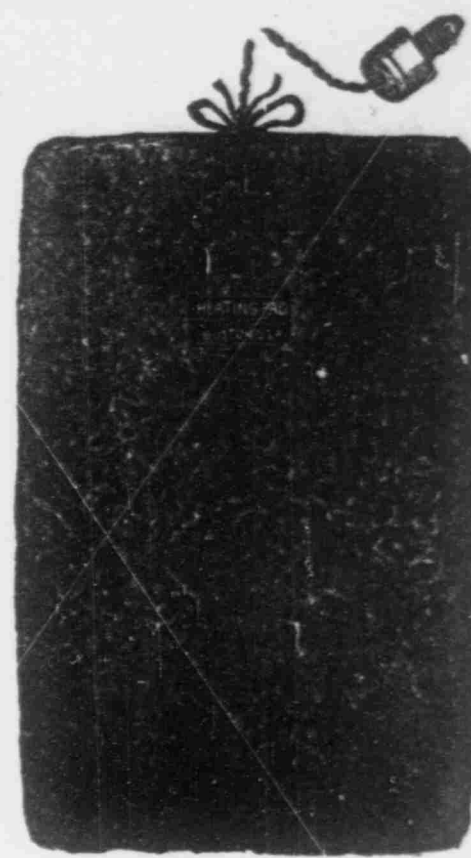
Smiling, we waved him toward our confere.

"You must ask," we said, "the puzzle editor."—Exchange.

Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.—Emerson.

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